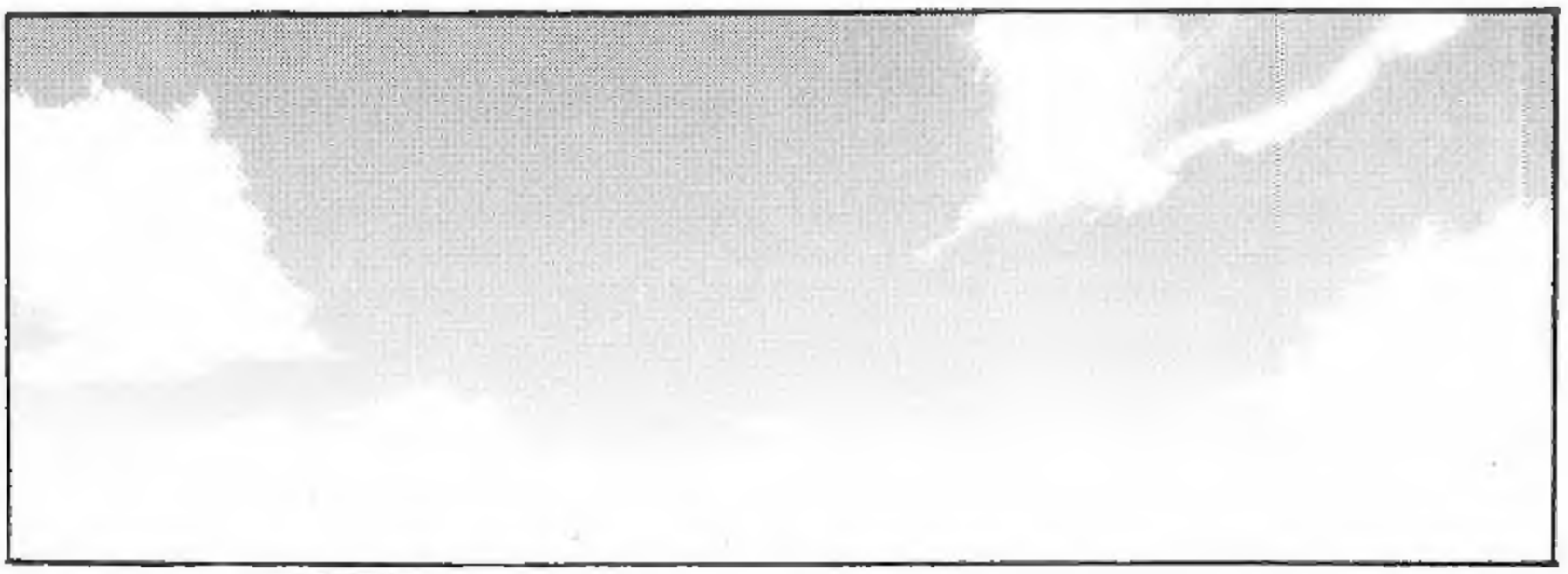
第3話　弱きを経て

CHAPTER 3: EXPERIENCE WEAKNESS



I SPOT A TOWN, OIFAYE!

... MAYBE.
YIED SHRINE SHOULD BE AROUND HERE...

I WAS JUST WONDERING IF MAYBE, JUST MAYBE...

SHANAN COULD HAVE FINISHED HIS BUSINESS IN YIED DESERT AND BE COMING TO MEET US...

AH! IT'S NO-THING.

LORD CELICE?

CELICE?

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, CELICE?

SIR SHANAN LEFT TILNANOGUE A FEW DAYS AGO.

IT'S CONVENIENT THAT WE'VE REACHED YIED AT THIS TIME.

IT'S ALRIGHT, IT'S MY FAULT FOR NOT DODGING.

SORRY. THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SWORD PRACTICE, BUT I ENDED UP HURTING YOU.

I HAVE A DUTY OF PROTECTING YOU, AND YET...

YOUR FATHER HAS DONE MUCH FOR ME.

SHANAN?

EVENTUALLY THE EMPIRE WILL *GO* AFTER YOUR LIFE, AND YET...

SHOULD I OBTAIN THAT HEIRLOOM... THAT SWORD... I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOU FAR MORE EFFICIENTLY...

THERE'S A RUMOR THAT AN HEIRLOOM OF THE ISAACIAN ROYAL FAMILY, OF WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN UNTIL NOW, MIGHT BE IN THE YIED DESERT.

A LARGE SHRINE... THAT'S WHERE SHANAN WENT, RIGHT?

……

はっ

YES... HE'S OUR COUSIN, AFTER ALL.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SHANAN, LAKCHE?

SHANAN HAS RAISED US ALL, TOGETHER WITH OIFAYE.

HE WAS ALSO A SUPERB TEACHER WHO TAUGHT ME HOW TO WIELD A SWORD.

SO I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS WELL ENOUGH.

LORD CELICE ?!

EVEN KNOWING THIS, I REGRETTABLY LET YOUR PRECIOUS RELATIVE GO ON A DANGEROUS JOURNEY. PLEASE FORGIVE ME.

HOWEVER...

LORD CELICE! WHY DO YOU SPEAK LIKE IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT?

"REGRETTABLY..."

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PROTECTED BY SHANAN...

BECAUSE I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH.

IF WE LOOK AT THE RESULTS, I DROVE SHANAN INTO A CORNER. FOR HIM TO PROTECT ME AND EVERYONE ELSE...

I MADE HIM GO ALONE TO YIED, LOOKING FOR AN EVEN MORE POWERFUL SWORD.

THAT'S BECAUSE PROTECTING YOU IS OUR NATURAL ROLE, LORD CELICE!

NO, LAKCHE.

EH?

THAT'S WRONG...

JUST LIKE MY FATHER, WHOM SHANAN ADORED...

MY POSITION ISN'T THAT OF SOMEONE WHO NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED...

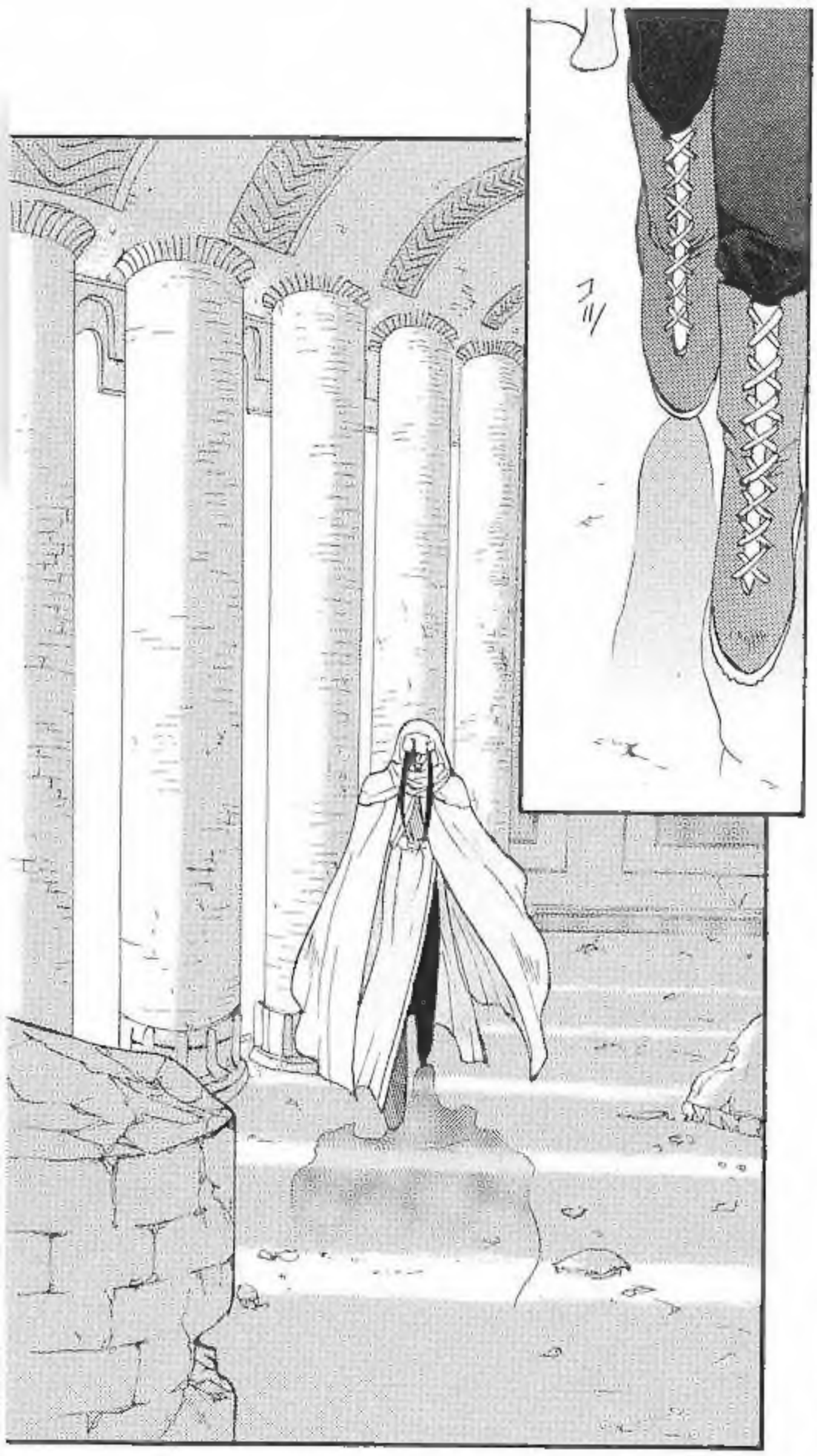
BUT RATHER, OF ONE WHO MUST PROTECT EVERYONE.

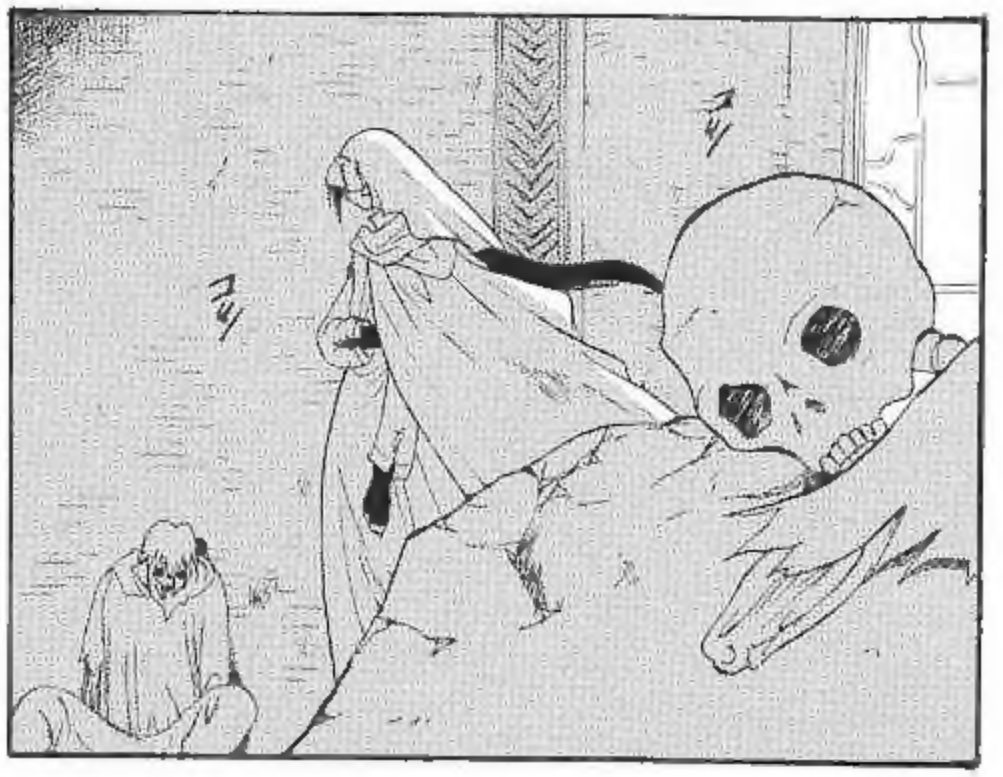
I MUST MAKE SHANAN RECOGNIZE ME.

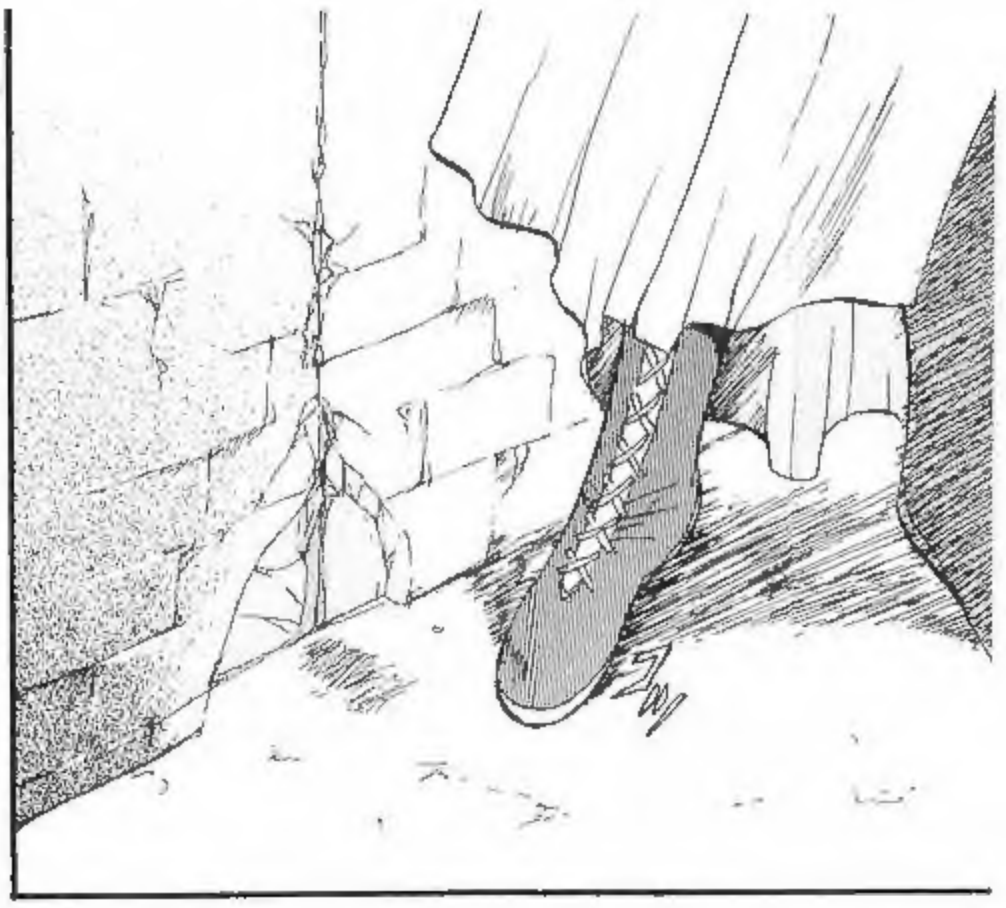
SO THAT HE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY AND PUSH HIMSELF TOO HARD...

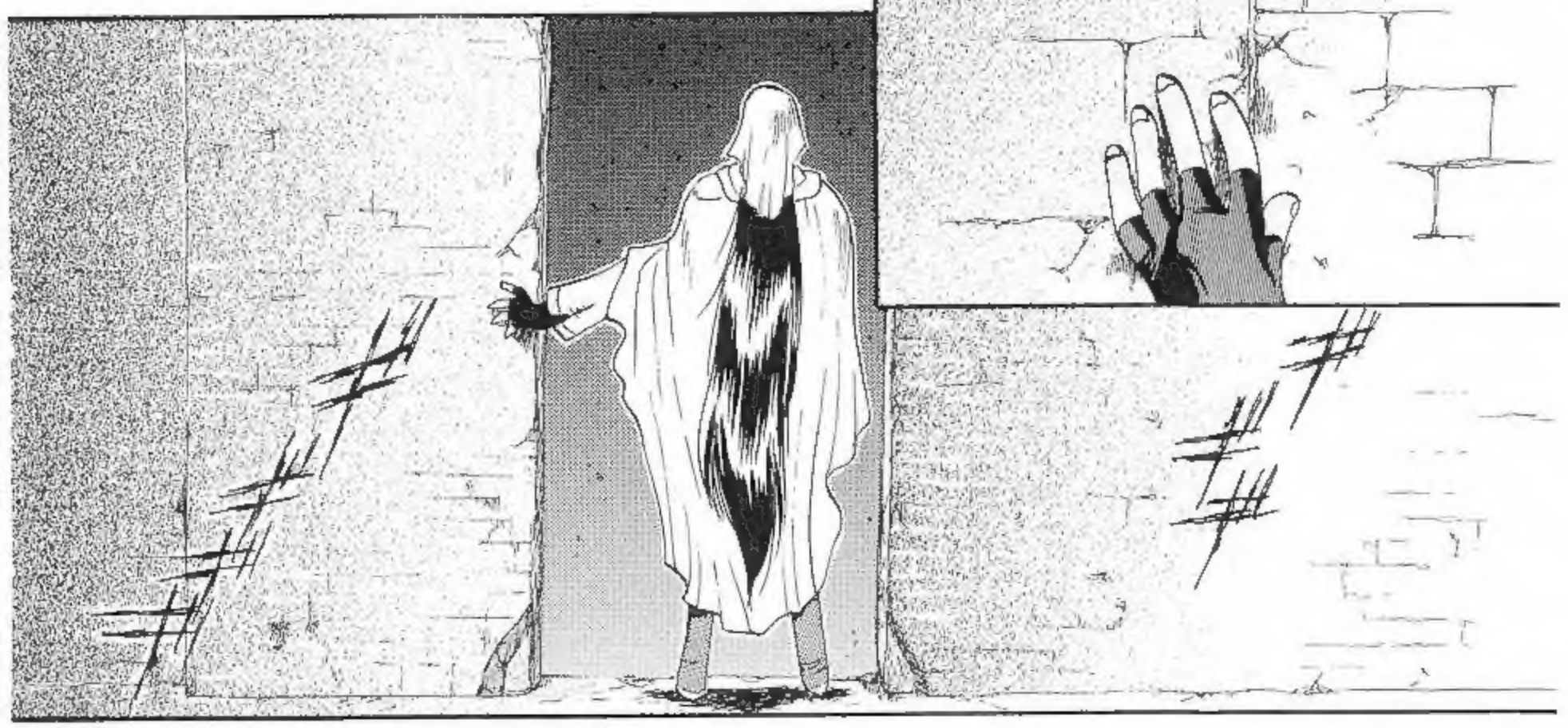
THERE'S STILL A LONG WAY TO LENSTER.

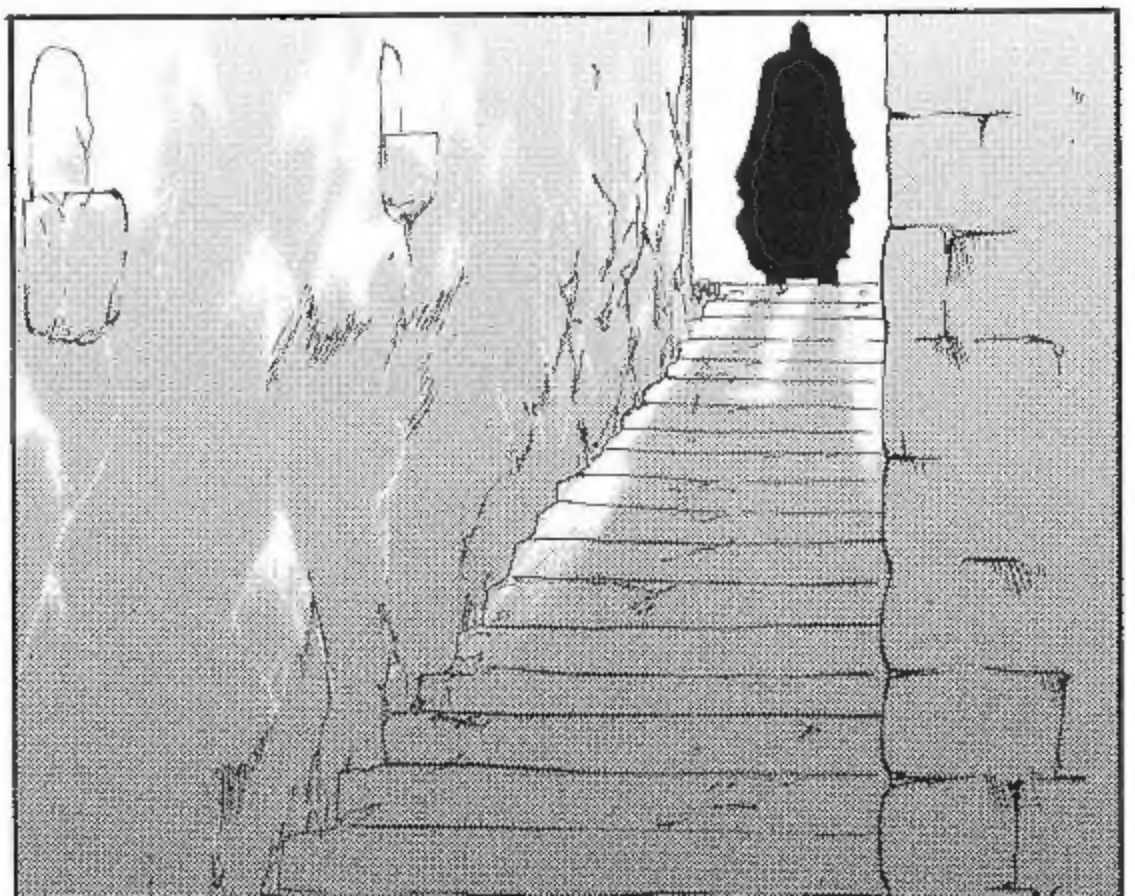
WHY DON'T WE JOIN UP WITH SHANAN AND REST FOR A BIT IN TOWN?











OH, ANNOYING DESCENDANT OF THE HOLY KNIGHT BALDO...

SO YOU'VE COME TO THE LAND OF YIED AT LAST.

!

THIS PERSON IS AN OBSTACLE TO H.M.

WE MUST ERASE HIM AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

JUST A LITTLE LONGER THE DAY WHEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE UNDERGROUND IS NIGH...

IF ONLY OUR FOREFATHERS HAD TRIUMPHED IN THE WAR HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO...

WE, THE LOPT CHURCH, WHO HAVE BEEN REPRESSED AND FORCED TO LIVE IN PLACES LIKE THIS...

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE

ALL BECAUSE OF THOSE TWELVE CRUSADERS, THIS KID'S ANCESTOR AMONG THEM.

WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR! NOT EVEN THIS KID!

NOW THAT HE'S WITH US, WE'LL RECOVER AS MANY TIMES AS NEEDED!

HOLY KNIGHT BALDO

THIS PERSON DOESN'T HAVE THE WEAPON OF HIS ANCESTOR.

ONE OF THE LEGENDARY WEAPONS, ONCE USED BY THE TWELVE CRUSADERS... WITHOUT IT, HE'S UNABLE TO USE MOST OF HIS POWER.

LOOK. IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, IT'S BEHIND THIS WALL...

OOOH, RIGHT!

ISN'T THAT JUST THE HOLY KNIGHT BALDO'S DESCENDANT'S CASE, THOUGH?

THE DIVINE SWORD BALMUNG.

THIS WEAPON WAS ALREADY HERE IN YIED.

SWORD SAINT ODO'S WEAPON...

!!

HA HA HA HA

SO HE'LL BE EASY TO CRUSH, EH?

IN OTHER WORDS, THE DESCENDANT OF ODO CANNOT EMPLOY THE FULL POWER OF HIS BLOODLINE.

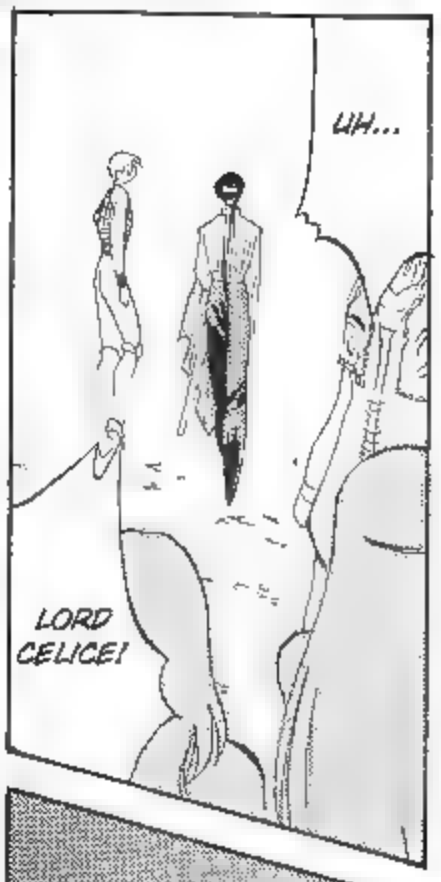
HE JUST GOT INTO TOWN, HOW CONVENIENT.

BUT THE KID COMES FIRST.

DISAPPEAR

TOGETHER WITH THOSE SORRY TOWNSPEOPLE!

JULIA?
WHAT...


UH...
LORD CELICE!

NO!! LORD CELICE!

LORD CELICE!!

WHAT HAP-PENED?

STOP IT...

I CAN'T GET THE TOWNS-PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THIS!

I'M BEING TARGET-TED?!

OIFAYE!

KYA!

THE ONE DOING THIS IS IN THE SHRINE!

I FEEL IT'S COMING FROM THE SHRINE...

THIS MAGIC JUST NOW...

STOP IT!

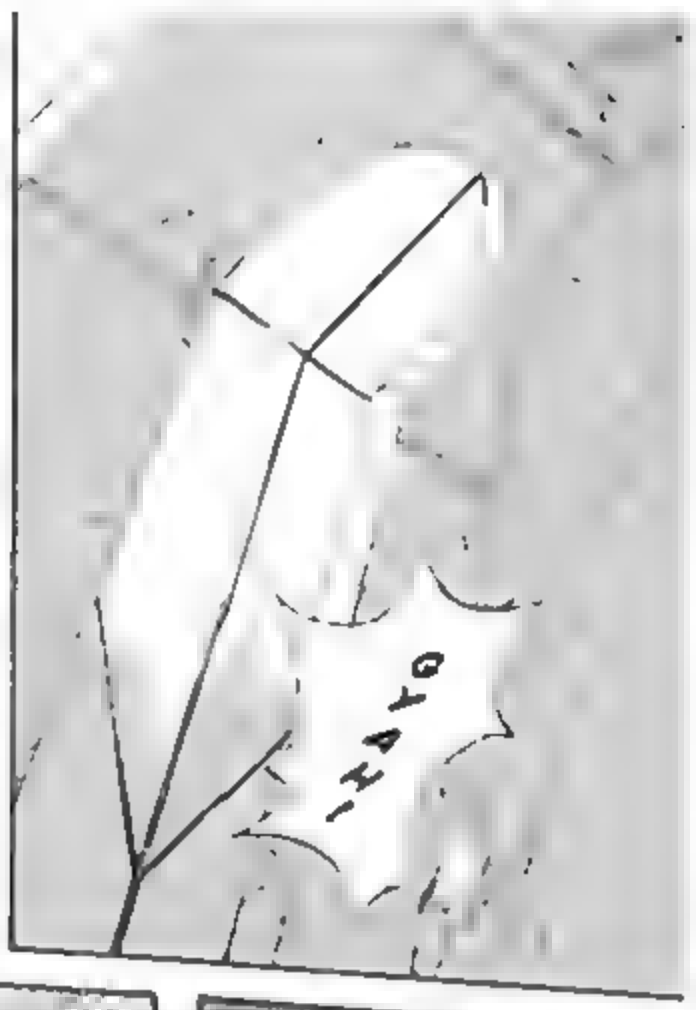
IF YOU WANT MY LIFE,

THEN TARGET ONLY ME!

LORD CELICE!

LORD CELICE!

THE ATTACKS STOPPED...?



DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU COULD CRUSH ME EASILY, SINCE I DON'T HAVE THE DIVINE SWORD?

WHAT'S WRONG?

WHA..
WHAT?

SO IT'S YOU!

SWORD SAINT ODO'S...

...? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

!

KYA!

DON'T LET HIM GET IT!

S-SUR-ROUND THE DIVINE SWORD!

O-OH MY!

IT SEEMS I'VE BEEN SPOTTED!

AND YOUR IMPATIENCE TELLS ME THIS IS A GOOD SWORD!

WHAT I STEAL IS MINE!

I'M A THIEF! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME ASKING ME THAT!

!?

WHO'S THIS GIRL? WHEN DID SHE-

HEEY! GIVE US THE SWORD!

WHAT!

"WOMAN?" HOW RUDE! MY NAME IS PATTY!

HEY, WOMAN!

PATTY! GIVE THAT SWORD TO ME!

THAT'S A HOLY SWORD ONLY I, AS A MEMBER OF ISAAC'S ROYAL FAMILY, CAN WIELD! THERE'S NO POINT IN YOU HOLDING IT!

HIH!

KUH! DON'T GET ANY CLOSER!

!

TCH!

!

SORRY!

EH? THEN YOU'RE...

EH? ROYAL FAMILY OF ISAAC...?

I'LL BE RUINED FOR MARRIAGE!!

KYAH! NO!!

I DIDN'T TOUCH ANYTHING!

STOP BEING SILLY!

THE SWORD!

EH?

IN THIS CASE, THEN AT LEAST CELICE...!

HIH!

KYAA!!

WHERE?

!

OUCH!

WAH!

WHAT?! HOLD IT!

I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY! I'M JUST A THIEF!

OUCH... WHAT THE HECK IS HAP-PEN-ING...?

GET BEHIND ME!!

HYAH!

SO IT'S YOU!

KILL HIM!

CELICE!

SHANA-

WHAT A SWORD!
IT NULLIFIED THE SPELL!

YOU'RE

NO LONGER THE WAY YOU USED TO BE,

CELICE.

THE PEOPLE WHO WISH TO BE LIBERATED FROM THE EMPIRE WON'T WAIT ANY LONGER.

WE SHOULDN'T DELAY A REBELLION BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES.

YOU'VE BEGUN PLAYING A LARGE ROLE WHILE I WASN'T WATCHING.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE A BIT LONGER UNTIL IT HAPPENED.

I HEAR YOU'VE LIBERATED ISAAC.

WHERE DID YOU?

IN THE TOWN OF YIED. I WAS SURPRISED.

JUST LIKE YOU AND FATHER

AND BESIDES, I MUST BECOME A STRONG MAN...

IF WE COULD FIND YOUR ANCESTOR'S... HOLY KNIGHT BALDO'S WEAPON, I'M SURE IT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP ON THE BATTLEFIELD AS WELL.

DIVINE SWORD BALMUNG

BY THE WAY IS THIS THE FAMILY HEIRLOOM YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?

YES

IT'S THE SWORD USED BY MY ANCESTOR, THE SWORD SAINT ODO. IT'S UNBELIAVABLY LIGHT.

SHANA!

WHILE I CAN'T SAY I HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH TO MATCH IT, I SHALL ASSIST YOU IN BATTLE.

CELEB THE EMPIRE'S POWER IS ENORMOUS

EXCUSE ME...

HM? YES, THAT'S RIGHT. AND YOU'RE A THIEF, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY...?

SO YOU'RE THE FAMOUS LORD CELICE OF THE LIBERATION ARMY, AND...

YOU'RE PRINCE SHANAN OF ISAAC, RIGHT?

PLEASE LET ME JOIN THE LIBERATION ARMY! I'LL GET MONE... I MEAN,

I'LL DO MY BEST AND ASSIST LORD CELICE IN BATTLE!

I'M PATTY!

¥ YAY! ♡ ¥ ¥

O-OY, CELICE!

WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET, RIGHT NOW. THANK YOU, PATTY.

THANK GOODNESS! AT LAST WE'VE FOUND YOU!

LORD CELICE! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

AH!! LORD SHANAN?!

OI FAYE!

SO YOU'RE SAFE! ARE YOU HURT?

WE'RE ALRIGHT, THANKS TO RANA AND JULIA'S FIRST AID AND RELIVE.

JULIA, RANA... THANK YOU.

.....

LET'S DEPART EARLY ON TOMORROW.

ONCE WE CROSS THE DESERT, WE'LL SOON BE IN LENSTER.

ONCE WE CROSS THE YIED DESERT WE'LL BE IN LENSTER, RIGHT OIFAYE?

THATS RIGHT. AND PRINCE LEAF, YOUR COUSIN, SHOULD BE THERE, LORD CELICE.

MY COUSIN... PRINCE LEAF...

HAVEN'T YOU FOUND PRINCE LEAF YET?

FIND HIM! AND FAST!

I WON'T!

FINN, LET ME GO!

PLEASE STOP, LORD LEAF!

FOR NOW... PLEASE...

HOW-EVER...

I UNDER-STAND THE FEELING OF HAVING YOUR FATHERLAND TAKEN FROM YOU.

THIS IS ALL WE CAN DO RIGHT NOW?!

ARE YOU SAYING...

ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL WE CAN DO IS RUN?!